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INDEX

EXTERNAL - POLITICAL

1. Khrushchev July 8 Speech Follow-Up
2. Nkrumah Visit
3. Sino-Soviet Relations
4. Kim Il-sen Visit
5. 40th Anniversary of MPR
6. Kuwait
7. Latin America

INTERNAL - POLITICAL

8. Leadership
9. Mitin, A Soviet Philosopher Once Under Fire Now Received Order of Lenin
10. Pravda Deputy Chief Editor Identified
11. Dygay Now USSR Deputy Minister
12. Legal Basis for KGB Investigations Broadened
13. Mongolian Communist Party Reelects Top Leadership

MILITARY

Negative.

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EXTERNAL - POLITICAL

1. Khrushchev July 8 Speech Follow-Up. Khrushchev's July 8 speech to military academy graduates was intended to underline Soviet determination and strength in connection with the Berlin problem and at the same time readiness to negotiate with the West. These two themes were brought out in equal measure in the press follow-up to the speech. The July 9 Tushino air display provided a convenient occasion for propaganda exploitation of Soviet military and technological prowess. Soviet press reports of world reaction to the Khrushchev speech dwelt on the need for and possibility of negotiation.

Secretary Rusk's July 10 National Press Club speech was briefly reported in the press as an attempt to whitewash US policy and present Soviet policy in a false light. Pravda (July 12) also noted White House press secretary Salinger's statement about the President's order for reconsideration of US military budget and needs under the heading "US Fans The Arms Race." Pravda made the point that the increase in Soviet defense spending announced July 8 by Khrushchev was a response to earlier US increases and should not be made a pretext for further US spending.

2. Nkrumah Visit. Ghanaian President Nkrumah was welcomed on arrival at Moscow airport July 10 by Khrushchev and three other CPSU Presidium members, as well as by a large number of lesser Soviet dignitaries. His schedule during the next few days included the familiar round of events for high-level visitors--Kremlin luncheon, wreath-laying at the Lenin-Stalin tomb, award of honorary law degree from Moscow University, Moscow sightseeing. In his speeches as reported in the Soviet press, Nkrumah gave high praise to the USSR and Khrushchev personally, and hewed close to the Soviet line in his attacks on "neo-colonialism" without, however, defining this term. Khrushchev went out of his way to attack the UN and call for its reorganization in his speech at the Kremlin luncheon for Nkrumah, and cited the Congo as an example of the misuses of the UN for colonialist purposes. In reply Nkrumah avoided any mention of the UN or Congo. He also adopted an independent tone in saying that he had come to the USSR not "necessarily" for aid but to study ways of improving trade relations.

3. Sino-Soviet Relations. Several indications that Soviet-Chinese ideological conflict may be flaring up again appeared during the week. Aside from the visits of Pham Van Dong and Kim Il-sen the previous week, which Moscow undoubtedly utilized and may have organized primarily for the purpose of trying to bring North Vietnam and North Korea around to the Soviet point of view on matters under argument, the Soviet papers published an account of Ch'en Yi's Geneva press interview in which he claimed that Moscow and Peiping always support each other and that the USSR specifically has supported China regarding Taiwan, UN membership and economic development. The Soviet press has taken no notice of Isaac Deutscher's Sunday Times article which alleged the existence of a Khrushchev letter to Communist parties demanding Chicom compliance with Moscow's leadership. However, it is possible that the press account of the Ch'en Yi interview is Moscow's indirect response to the Deutscher article.

In a related development to Soviet-Chinese frictions, one newspaper reported that a meeting of an ad hoc working committee of CEMA met in Moscow on July 6 to discuss water purification problems and failed to list Albania as a participant.

4. Kim Il-sen Visit. North Korean party and government boss Kim Il-sen concluded his visit to the USSR on July 10 and continued on to Peiping, where, according to the Soviet press, he signed a bilateral military alliance with the Chicoms similar to that he concluded with the Soviets.

The Soviet-North Korean treaty signed on July 6 in Moscow came as something of a surprise in the light of the strongly negative position of Soviet propaganda toward military pacts. One possible advantage for Moscow in the treaty seems to be to achieve the effect of drawing the line more sharply between the Communist and non-Communist worlds as the Soviets are trying to do in Germany. The development may also be related to Soviet-Chinese rivalry.

The language of the joint communique signed by Kim Il-sen and Khrushchev, published in Pravda on July 11 suggested that Moscow does not envisage the early reunification of Korea and regards the establishment of a military junta in South Korea as a backward step in this regard. The communique condemned US policy toward China in a similar manner to the Soviet- DRV communique last week and ticked off Korean support for Soviet global policies, starting with approval of Khrushchev's conduct in meeting President Kennedy in Vienna. Kim Il-sen departed from the USSR with an agreement for fresh Soviet economic assistance, including a long-term credit.

5. 40th Anniversary of MPR. The Soviet press gave extensive coverage of the 40th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Republic. Although this event is not identical to the 40th Anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party, it is sufficiently similar to afford a basis for comparison. On this basis favorable and extensive treatment of the Mongolian anniversary served to emphasize further the meager and less than enthusiastic coverage given to the Chicom event.

6. Kuwait. After some initial uncertainty pending developments in the Kuwait situation, the Soviet press adopted a firm line of attacking British "occupation" of the sheikhdom while avoiding taking sides on the question of Kuwaiti sovereignty. Press reporting of the Security Council proceedings sought to give the impression of identity of views among the USSR, the UAR, and Iraq by citing their demands for the withdrawal of British troops. The underlying UAR-Iraqi dispute as to the status of Kuwait was not discussed, though press treatment of the early stages of the crisis had touched briefly on this point.

7. Latin America. A Soviet good-will mission to Latin America headed by Secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Georgadze is scheduled to leave Moscow July 14. Reports indicate that the mission now is scheduled to visit Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, and Cuba.

Ecuadorian Vice President Arosemena left the USSR July 12 after a three-week visit. The Embassy received a report that Arosemena was disappointed with his reception and the delegation as a whole unimpressed by its tour of the Soviet Union.

INTERNAL - POLITICAL

8. Leadership. Continuing last week's active pace, N. S. Khrushchev made 13 public appearances in five days and delivered four speeches, two of them major addresses: July 6 at the North Korean-Soviet friendship rally and July 8 to military academy graduates. The visiting North Korean Party-Government delegation occupied much attention until Khrushchev signed the treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance on July 6 and the Koreans were escorted to the border on their way to Peking via Bratsk and Irkurtsk (Siberia) by Central Committee Secretary N.A. Muthitdinov. Other major protocol demands on Khrushchev's time during the week included: a Kremlin reception on July 7 for workers of higher schools, opening day of the second International Film Festival, the civil-military airshow at Tushino on July 3, and a reception for air show participants the next day which also was the day that the President of Ghana arrived.

Little wonder that beginning on July 12 there was no mention of Khrushchev's activities in the press. According to a diplomatic source, he left on that day for a two-week stay in the south.

Presidium member D.S. Polyanskiy who is also Chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers was among those present on July 8 to hear the Khrushchev speech before graduates of military academies. He had been absent since June 12. Four other Moscow resident Presidium figures, Ignatov, Kuusinen, Shvernik and Pospelov, were probably on vacation. In their absence the extremely heavy representational load was spread about evenly among the remaining Moscow-resident Presidium figures. Kozlov, as usual, seemed to be Khrushchev's second in command on party matters.

9. Mitin, A Soviet Philosopher Once Under Fire Now Receives Order of Lenin. On July 6, M. B. Mitin, Central Committee Member, Chief Editor of Problems of Philosophy and a figure in many Soviet philosophical and propaganda circles was awarded the Order of Lenin "for services in the development of philosophy, science and in connection with his 60th birthday." Mitin's honor was especially interesting in view of the fact that he was a member of the editorial board of Problems of Philosophy (under Chief Editor M. D. Kammari) which was completely removed during a purge of that magazine (compare editorial boards listed in Problems of Philosophy No. 7 (July) and No. 8 (August) 1959). A Central Committee position paper dated July 31, 1959 and published for the first time in May 1961 in Questions of Ideological Work, (page 279), ordered restaffing of the journal with young talent. Deficiencies of the journal and specific criticisms against some responsible individuals are noted in that CC document. Apparently Mitin successfully rode out the storm of criticism against the journal for by early 1960 he had replaced A.F. Okulov, a Deputy Director of the Institute of Philosophy of the USSR Academy and interim Chief Editor, as Chief Editor of Problems of Philosophy, and has held the post of Chief Editor up to the present time.

10. Pravda Deputy Chief Editor Identified. At a reception for visiting journalists from the Japanese Communist Paper Akahata given by Central Committee Secretary Mukhitdinov, V. P. Stepanov was identified as a "Deputy Chief Editor" of Pravda. This may well be the same Stepanov who in 1954 was Chief of the Central Committee's Agitprop Section. Pravda Chief Editor P.A. Satyukov who was recently awarded an Order of Lenin on his 50th birthday (Pravda, June 29) also attended.

11. Dygay Now USSR Deputy Minister. At a dinner given on July 11 in honor of the visiting Ecuador Vice President, N. A. Dygay was identified as a "Deputy Minister of the USSR" (Pravda, July 12). Dygay had been a full Minister of the USSR when he was First Deputy Chairman of Gosplan but he had been released to "other duties" early in the year (Pravda of Jan. 28). Since that time he has frequently been used in an escort capacity for visiting VIPs identified as a "Deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet." On this the first occasion that he has been identified by the title of "deputy minister" he was grouped with two other deputy ministers from the Ministry of Foreign Trade. It may be possible that he was demoted from Gosplan to join that ministry

12. Legal Basis for KGB Investigations Broadened. An Ukaz of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium of June 21 (Vedomosti, Verkhovnovo Soveta, RSFSR (sic) No. 25, 1961) broadens the authority which permits the KGB to conduct investigations separately or jointly with the Prosecutor's Office. The crimes for which KGB investigation is authorized generally involve internal security (espionage, state secrets, border crossings, and the like) and are written to permit elastic interpretations. It seems likely that the new law merely codifies past KGB practice (see Despatch #21, July 7).

13. Mongolian Communist Party Reelects Top Leadership. The 14th congress of the Mongolian Peoples' Revolutionary Party (Communist Party Mongolia) concluded July 7 by electing a new Central Committee (75 members, 51 candidate members) and a Central Auditing Commission (15 persons). At the first Plenum of the Mongolian Central Committee the pre-congress Politbureau and Secretariat were reelected, a probable indication of relative stability within the party. (see Despatch No. 34 of July 12, 1961).

MILITARY

(Negative).

FOR THE AMBASSADOR
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